

History, should recollect that the only road to literature lies through the dictionary, and that their objection is the same as that of the child who dislikes the task of "meaning spelling."

Very little trouble will be required to master the few terms in the Glossary of the present little book, where they are clearly explained. The work is very neatly got up, and is well adapted to attract new votaries to the study of our marine flora; for although it does not convey much information beyond the names, these are precisely what all beginners are most interested in, and of course the name of an object must necessarily be known in order to the communication of observation of structure or habit.

PROCEEDINGS OF LEARNED SOCIETIES.

LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

March 21, 1848.—E. Forster, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

Read a Memoir "On the Australian species of the Coleopterous genus *Bolboceras*, Kirby." By J. O. Westwood, Esq., F.L.S. &c.

In this paper, which contains the characters and descriptions of five new species of *Bolboceras* from Australia, Mr. Westwood passes in review the various writers on the subject, and enters into some critical detail on the characters which they have assigned to the genus. The following are the characters of the new species proposed:—

1. B. (ELEPHASTOMUS) KIRBII; castaneo-fulvus, capitis cornu antice porrecto brevi truncato plano subtus in spinam bifidam haud producto, vertice carinâ brevi transversâ, prothoracis lateribus valdè punctatis utrinque fossulatis; disco posticè canali abbreviato longitudinali instructo.—Long. corp. lin. 9.

B. (Elephastomus) Kirbii, Hope MSS.

Hab. in Terrâ Van Diemen. In Mus. Hope.

This appears to be the insect given by Mr. MacLeay as the female of *Elephastomus proboscideus*. It is however a male, and is given by Dr. Klug as a variety of the male of that species. The insect above described appears sufficiently distinct as a species from the former.

2. B. REICHI; castaneus nitidus, capite cornu valdè elongato erecto, prothorace anticè valdè deflexo et subconcavo cornubus duobus crassis longitudine capitis porrectis lateralibus armato: singulo versus basin dente obtuso erecto instructo; prothoracis lateribus rudè punctatis spatique triangulari impresso et punctato ante scutellum; margine postico parùm elevato, elytris striis gracillimis punctatis, tibiis anticis extis 5-dentatis. ♂.—Long. corp. lin. 11; lat. prothoracis lin. 7.

Hab. Port Essington. In Mus. Hope et Reich.

♂ *Bolboceras Reichii*, Guérin, Voyage de la Favorite, et Iconogr. du Règne An. Ins. p. 84.

Bolboceras Kirbii ♂, Hope in Proc. of Ent. Soc., Nov. 1841, p. 43.

♀ *Bolboceras Kirbii*, Bainbridge in Trans. Ent. Soc.

Differt capite minori, vertice in tuberculum conicum apice bifidum elevato, clypeo et vertice carinâ tenui angulatâ separatis, pronoto anticè spatio

subhexagono plano polito, in puncta duo profunda anticè lateraliter desinente; disco pone medium valdè punctato, versus marginem posticum elevato lævi, spatio ovali mediano punctato et impresso relicto.—Long. corp. lin. 11.

Hab. ad Melville Island. Mus. Hope (etiam in Mus. Gory, nunc Hope, cum nomine *B. Reichii* inscripto).

Obs. The name given to the male of this species is here retained in preference to that of the female, in accordance with the usual custom in such cases.

3. *B. TAURUS*; castaneus nitidus, capitis vertice utrinque laminis duabus auriculatis erectis instructo cornubusque duobus elongatis curvatis nigris ante oculos armato, pronoto in medio versus marginem anticum parùm reflexo seu tuberculis duobus transversis subelevatis instructo; lateribus punctatis.—Long. corp. lin. 8.

Hab. ad Swan River. In Mus. Hope (olim Gory, sub nomine manuscripto suprâ indicato; etiam in Mus. Saunders).

4. *B. CAPREOLUS*; castaneus nitidus, capite posticè nigricante; vertice cornu lato furcato 6-dentato erecto armato, pronoto anticè retuso glabro, dorso carinâ transversâ pone medium instructo, mandibulis magnis extùs denticulatis. ♂.—Long. corp. lin. 9.

Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ, Swan River. In Mus. Hope (olim Mus. Gory, cum nomine suprâ inscripto designatum).

5. *B. BAINBRIDGII*; piceus, capitis clypeo anticè tridentato, dente intermedio minori; vertice inermi, pronoto anticè valdè declivi dente erecto versus marginem anticum; parte declivi suprâ carinâ curvatâ marginatâ.—Long. corp. lin. 7.

Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ, Swan River. In Mus. D. Hope.

Of these species, as well as of *B. (Elephastomus) Australasiæ*, Kirby, *B. serricollis*, Bainbridge, *B. hastifer*, Bainb., *B. 3-tuberculatus*, Bainb., *B. 7-tuberculatus*, Bainb., *B. coronatus*, Klug, *B. quadricornis*, Klug, *B. neglectus*, Hope, *B. rotundatus*, Hope, and *B. rubescens*, Hope, Mr. Westwood adds figures, either of the whole insect or of the more distinctive parts. He also figures and describes a new subgenus with the following characters:—

Subgenus STENASPIDIUS.

Corpus magis elongatum quam in *Bolboceratis veris*; scutello elongato (nec triangulari); elytris striis 5 tantùm inter humeros et suturam; mesosterno porrecto. Differt etiam colore antennarum.

BOLBOCERAS (STENASPIDIUS) NIGRICORNIS; ovalis niger nitidus sparsim punctatus, capite tuberculo conico inter oculos, pronoto canali punctato medio aliisque duobus abbreviatis pone oculos, elytris striato-punctatis.—Long. corp. lin. 3½.

Hab. in Novâ Hollandiâ. In Mus. D. Hope (olim Gory, cum nomine suprâ indicato inscripto).

April 4.—E. Forster, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

Read some "Notes on the Vegetation of Scinde," extracted from a Letter addressed by John Ellerton Stocks, Esq., M.D., to J. F. Royle, Esq., M.D., F.R.S., F.L.S. &c., dated Bombay, November 25, 1847.

The extracts consisted, first, of a sketch of the physical geogra-